



12-Hour Battle

TWO BIG FIRES PLAGUE AREA OVER WEEK-END

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ARELLANO, POW, RETURNS! SGT. J. PATTON HERE SOON



HOME . . . Months of fear, expectation, and hope have finally found fulfillment for Cpl. Daniel Arellano and all those far and near who have been concerned about his fate. Helen Ortega, 4, the returning POW's niece, looks with admiration at her soldier-uncle, while another niece, Corrine Camou, 3, catches his attention momentarily. Mrs. Clem Camou, the local soldier's sister, looks on gratefully.

GI Never Gave Up Hope . . .

"I had it in my mind that I would get back—I never doubted it a moment—a lot of guys just gave up hope."
This and the grace of God were the explanations Cpl. Daniel Arellano found for returning to Torrance alive after almost two harsh years as a prisoner of war in Korea.
"We were 20 miles behind the Communist lines trying to get back to our outfit," the first POW to return to Torrance recalled slowly. "We'd been fighting five or six days straight . . . 24 hours a day . . . when they finally got us."

The city of Torrance will hold a special welcome-home celebration for Cpl. Daniel Arellano. A motion to that effect was made by Councilman Victor Benstead and unanimously accepted by the City Council Tuesday night.

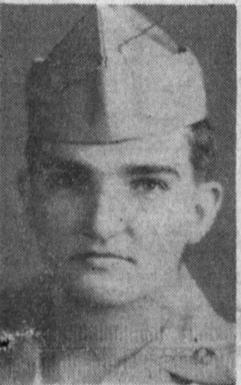
Everything seemed to blow up around us . . . we kept firing till we were out of ammunition . . . and then they came and got us.
"Will to Live."
The will-to-live of which the soldier spoke asserted itself strongly then.
"I was hit," Arellano continued with that tired smile of one who had gone through a great deal. ". . . mortar fragment in the leg. . . I kept lying on the ground while the Communists ran all around me. . . and then I suddenly felt that I didn't want to die and that I had to get back and that I'd take a chance on surviving imprisonment."

When he and the 35 other surviving soldiers were captured they (Continued on Page 2)

Get Word That Sgt. Released

Three years is a long time in any language but it is eternity when you are a prisoner of war or the relatives of a prisoner of war.

Mrs. Joe Corso of 826 Cranbrook just received word that her 22-year-old brother, Sgt. First Class John Patton, is one of the



SGT. JOHN PATTON

last 250 prisoners to be released by the Korean Communists.
With only a few more prisoners to be released, Mr. and Mrs. Corso's concern over John's life and safety mounted day by day. Shivers shot up and down their spine when they received news of his release.

Captured
The sergeant, who was with the engineers, joined the service when he was 16 years old. When his two years were up, he stayed out a year only to reenlist again at 19. He was stationed in Japan when the war broke out in June, 1950 and found himself at the front a month later. By November, 1950 he was a prisoner of the Communists.

No One Knew
Neither his grandmother, who (Continued on Page 2)

Kiwanis Kids' Day Scheduled

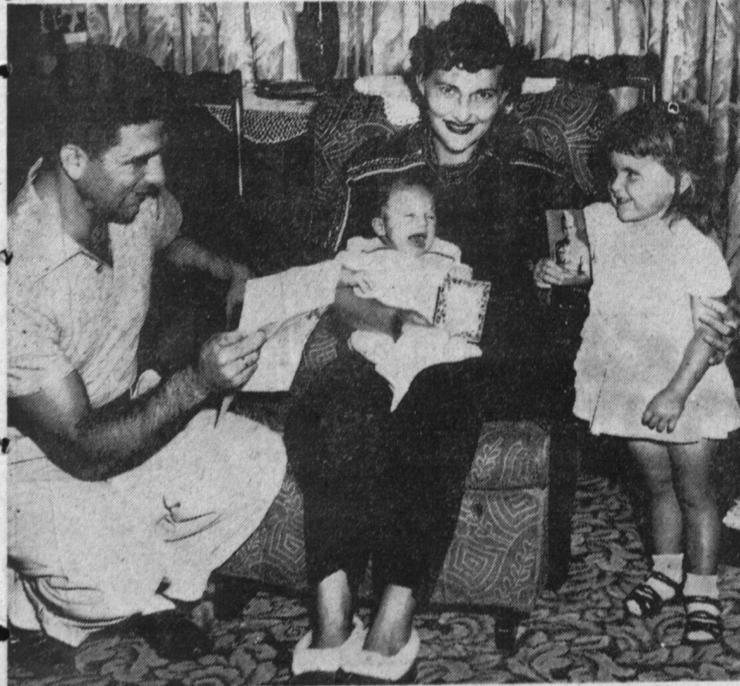
Over 1,000 kids were "taken for a ride" but not in gangland terms—The Torrance Kiwanis Club co-operating with City Recreation Department provided 4,338 free rides for the kids of Torrance through their "Learn to Serve Program" this summer.

The annual climax of these activities is National Kids Day which will be celebrated Saturday, Sept. 26, in Torrance and hundreds of other communities throughout the United States, Canada, Alaska and Hawaii.
C. H. Ragsdale, president of the Torrance Kiwanis club, said the annual observance is sponsored by Kiwanis International and The National Kids' Day Foundation, Inc., North Hollywood, California.
"Plans for the fifth annual celebration of National Kids' Day here are almost complete," Ragsdale added. "In keeping with the purpose of the day, which is to attract more attention to the problems of under-privileged youth (Continued on Page 2)

JACK DROWN TO SPEAK

Jack Drown, chairman of the Republican Central Committee in the 17th Congressional District, will discuss "The 1954 Campaign" at a dinner meeting of the 68th District Republican Assembly on Tuesday, Sept. 15, at 7:30 p.m. in the Fireside, San Pedro.

Leonard DiMiceli, president of the 68th District Republican Assembly, said that the organization already is launching its plans for an active campaign to elect Republicans to various state and national offices in 1954, and that the Tuesday night meeting will be a "kick-off" affair.
Other Central Committee members also will participate.



COMING HOME . . . Mr. and Mrs. Joe Corso just received word that Mrs. Corso's brother, Sgt. First Class John Patton, was one of the Chinese Reds. Susan, his niece, just can't wait until her uncle, who was a prisoner of war for three years, comes back to her. The sergeant has never seen his expressive little nephew, Victor Joseph.

Mrs. Carter Also Owns 153-Year-Old Paper

"Oh, how did that fellow ever get hold of my newspaper," was Mrs. Ruby Carter's first reaction to the story of the 153-year-old newspaper appearing in the Torrance Press last week.
She dashed quickly to where she kept her copy of the 153-year-old "Water County Gazette" and was surprised to find that her copy was still there.
Mrs. Carter, of 618 Amapola, concluded, therefore, that Harry S. Dudley simply had the identical copy which she had.
This old two-page newspaper carries the story of the death of George Washington among other interesting articles.
Mrs. Carter's copy is a family

Demo Dinner

Saturday, October 10, has been definitely set for the 17th Congressional District Homecoming Dinner for Congressman Cecil King. It was announced this week.
The dinner will be held at the heirloom. It was handed down from great-grandmother to grandmother to mother to daughter.
Mrs. Carter, who lived in Torrance 20 years, came here from Pennsylvania.

Flying Sparks Spread Blaze

Fires seem to have a diabolical habit of not occurring at all for a long time or else they occur all at once.

Monday, Labor Day, was a day of toil rather than of rest for the Torrance Fire Department which concentrated its equipment for over twelve hours on the Pacific Waste Products fire which broke out at 1:30 p.m. at Engracia and Llewellyn.



WHERE THERE IS SMOKE . . . a spark from the Pacific Waste Products fire which had spread to within 200 feet of these rubber waste products set them ablaze, raising clouds of billowing black smoke.

About seventy-five tons of scrap-paper bales and loose rubber waste products flared up successively within a matter of two hours at a damage amounting to about \$5,000 to \$7,000.

Two Injured
There were two injuries, according to Battalion Chief Neil Whitney who was in charge of the fire fighting operations. Two firemen Dean White and Gerald Loy, received foot injuries when they happened to step on nails.

Following tetanus shots, the men were sent back into the fight not only because they were in good shape but because the Department needed every man it has, under such circumstances.

No one was in the plant at the time the fire occurred and the cause of the fire has been said to be due to spontaneous combustion, Chief Benner stated.

Fires just flared up all over the area, jumping from bale to bale and from these to the weeds and the rubber waste products 200 ft. away from the nearest fire.

Rubber Products
It was not till about 1 1/2 hours after the fire began that the rubber waste products in the south-east corner of the tract were touched off by a flying spark. Heavy black clouds and an intense fire billowed forth, with the fire speeding under the fence up to the near-by railroad tracks uncomfortably close to a residential area.

About 25 firemen, three pieces of equipment (two from the main station, one from Walteria), and visiting firemen from Los Angeles battled the chain-reaction blazes while Redondo moved into the main station. It was about two hours before the fire was under control, the battalion chief stated.

Warning Received
Chief J. J. Benner, who was "in my garage enjoying myself" on (Continued on Page 3)

3-DAY CARNIVAL THIS WEEK-END

The Torrance Area Youth Band is sponsoring the annual Carnival this weekend, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, Sept. 11-13, on the corner of Engracia and Cravens, next door to the new telephone building.

The Martin's United Shows of Los Angeles are bringing their entire aggregation of rides which include the Ferris Wheel, Merry-Go-Round, Dipsy-Doodie, Roller-Coaster, and many kiddie rides for this three day event. There will be plenty of thrilling rides for both adults and kiddies.

Miss Sandra Lee Constance, recently elected "Miss Torrance" of 1954 in a city-wide beauty pageant sponsored by the band will reign

over the three day Carnival. Profits will be added to the band's uniform and instrument fund.

P.O. Gets Ready for Inspection

A rapid "house-cleaning" job was reported to be underway in the Torrance post office in preparation for what it has been announced will be a "thorough investigation" of the post office by postal inspectors.

One resident inspector has been in conference with local officials from time to time throughout the week, it was said.

The investigation is reported to have been ordered by the post-office (Continued on Page 2)

DOPE SUSPECT SURRENDERS; WON'T TALK

Garry O'Brien, whom police have been seeking since the death last week of Richard R. Rodriguez, of 17518 Crenshaw Blvd., surrendered himself to police Monday.

Police Captain E. J. Parker of the Hawthorne Police Department said that O'Brien just is not talking one bit and that it looks like he intends to continue like that. The only thing to be done right now is to outwait his silence.

All that is known as of the time this paper went to press is that the youth surrendered himself to his father who talked him into surrendering to the police.

The youth gave no indication as to where he had been staying. He (Continued on Page 2)

FULL SCHOOL BUS RUNS ANNOUNCED

A complete schedule of school bus runs was released this week by the Torrance Unified School District. It was also reported that bus transportation will be provided for all Torrance High School freshmen to the high school for their orientation meeting at 1 p.m. Friday, September 11. School buses will make their regular stops.

The following is the elementary (Continued on Page 3)

Barn Before Horse No Joke . . .

Mrs. Charles Ward, of 1625 Beech st., learned that you can put the cart before the horse and still be pretty certain about the horse.

With a wedding coming up, Mrs. Ward thought that a quilt as a wedding gift would be just the right thing.

There was only one thing wrong with the idea. Mrs. Ward had no earthly conception of how to make the quilt.

She did the most natural thing imaginable under the circumstances—she placed the following ad with the Torrance Press Classifieds, asking for a quilter.

One hour after the paper came out, a quilter was dexterously quilting away at the gift.

Mrs. Ward knew that the Torrance Press classifieds could satisfy the wildest dreams. She felt quite safe therefore, about putting the cart before the horse.

QUILTER WANTED
Want someone to do quilting on gift quilt. FA-8-3888



BIG ONES, LITTLE ONES, AND MEDIUM ONES . . . Wesley Harrison (left) and Richard Crites, owners of the new Flamingo Flowers and Gifts shop put the finishing touches on their colorful cornucopia. They will make these in all sizes for table decorations. (Continued on Page 2)